

REMARKS

Claims 1-24, 30-33, 36-37, and 41 are currently pending in the application. Claims 25-29, 34-35, 38-40, and 42-43 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 33 and 37 have been amended without prejudice or disclaimer, solely for the purpose of expediting patent prosecution in accordance with the U.S. Patent Office Business Goals (65 Fed. Reg. 54604 (September 8, 2000)). Amended claims 33 and 37 contain corrections to include proper claim dependency and formatting. Applicants reserve the right to present any cancelled or deleted subject matter in a copending application.

The amendments to the claims are supported by the application as originally filed, and do not constitute new matter. Entry of the amendments is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Prompt examination of the application is respectfully requested. Although no additional charges are believed to be due, the Commission is authorized to charge any additional fees that may be due, or to credit any overpayment, to the undersigned's Deposit Account Number **50-0311**, Reference Number **24852-503 NATL**, Customer Number **35437**.

If the Examiner is of the opinion that further discussion of this Amendment would be helpful, the Examiner is hereby respectfully requested to telephone the Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number provided below.

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Respectfully submitted,



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